Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Monday 01 Jan 2024 until 23:59 on Tuesday 02 Jan 2024

Forecast Issued on Sunday 31 Dec 2023 at 16:41

Confidence: High for remaining unsettled through the coming days but lower for details of timing of the various more persistent bands of rain, sleet and snow.

Headline for Monday 01 Jan 2024: Early and late snow, but dry with sunny spells through middle of the day. Cold

Mountain weather hazards on Monday 01 Jan 2024

Blizzards Low Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** Low Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales Low Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Medium Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light snow	Light snow	Heavy snow	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Cloudy	Light snow
Precipitation probability							
60%	90%	90%	30%	10%	<05%	20%	80%

Forecast for Monday 01 Jan 2024

Weather: Outbreaks of sleet and snow, falling increasingly as rain below about 600m, become more persistent and occasionally heavy through the early hours with the risk of blizzard conditions over higher fells around dawn. The rain, sleet and snow clears away east through the morning with some decent spells of sunshine developing, although lying snow will continue to drift or blow in the strong winds. However towards the end of the afternoon cloud will increase again with outbreaks of sleet and snow, with rain below about 600m, moving northeast through the evening, and becoming more persistent and heavy at times towards midnight with blizzard conditions returning to the higher fells.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Little chance at first rising close to 100% by midday. Chances fall again in the evening

Low cloud and visibility: Periods or persistent cloud above about 450-600m, with patches below, until mid-morning and again from early evening, but little cloud expected below summits by midday and through the afternoon. Away from cloud visibility several kilometres in rain and a kilometre or less in snow and near zero in blizzard conditions and blowing snow, but very good at times from mid-morning until early evening, with some good views of recently snow covered fells.

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Forecast for Monday 01 Jan 2024

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	24/29 W	37/47 W	34/43 W	30/38 W	26/32 W	18/21 SW	17/22 SE	27/35 SE	30/40 E
600	17/23 W	26/36 W	26/37 W	23/33 W	20/28 W	12/16 SW	15/22 S	21/31 SE	23/35 E
300	7/17 W	12/30 W	12/30 W	11/26 W	9/21 W	4/13 SW	7/15 S	9/21 SE	11/25 E
Valley	9/21 W	13/30 W	12/28 W	11/25 W	10/22 W	5/13 SW	8/16 SE	11/23 SE	13/27 E

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	0/-7	-1/-9	-1/-9	-1/-9	-1/-8	-1/-7	-1/-8	-2/-9	-0/-9
600	2/-3	1/-5	2/-5	1/-5	2/-4	1/-3	1/-5	1/-5	2/-4
300	4/1	4/-0	4/-0	4/-0	4/1	4/2	3/-0	3/-1	4/-1
Valley	6/3	6/2	6/2	6/3	7/4	6/4	5/2	5/1	5/0
Freezing Level*	1000m	900m	800m	800m	800m	700m	700m	700m	900m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Gusts around 50mph over ridges and summits through the early hours.

Forecast for Tuesday 02 Jan 2024

Weather: Occasionally heavy rain, with sleet and snow becoming confined to the highest fells through the early hours, once again clearing by mid-morning to leave the rest of daylight hours with sunny spells and a few wintry showers. Cloud returns again through the evening with further outbreaks of rain, and perhaps some summit wintriness, returning towards midnight.

Maximum wind: Easterly or southeasterly 20-25mph, with gusts around 45mph over ridges and summits through the early hours, easing 15mph for the afternoon, before winds turning more southwesterly in the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Little chance at first rising to 75% through the morning, chances fall again in evening.

Low cloud and visibility: Periods or persistent cloud above about 450-600m, with patches below, becoming more occasional above 600-750m by mid-morning, cloud then returning through the evening. Away from cloud visibility several kilometres in rain and a kilometre or less in snow, but very good through much of daylight hours.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Around plus 3 or 4 Celsius at first rising to plus 9 or 10 Celsius by day
At 800m: Around plus 1 Celsius rising to plus 3 Celsius
Freezing level: 900m rising to just above the summits.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Sunday 31 December: Location: Helvellyn summit at 10:27: Full report: A cloudy day with blustery winds. Mild temperatures have melted much of yesterday's snow and all of the snow encountered today was wet and thawing at all levels. The greatest accumulations of snow can now be found on North and East facing slopes above 800m. Small, fragile cornices are also present in these locations, dotted around the corrie rims, and should be given a wide berth. Swirral and Striding Edge are in winter condition and it will only take a slight drop in temperature overnight to freeze much of today's wet snow. Conversely, Helvellyn's summit plateau is now mostly exposed ground with drifted snow accumulations in sheltered dips and hollows. The route up over Brown Cove Crags from Swirls carpark also has snow on the path above 750m. he freezing level tomorrow is forecast to be around 700-800m so any snow encountered tomorrow could be hard and icy. Full winter clothing (warm and waterproof), extra warm layers, hats & gloves, and equipment including a headtorch, map, and compass are all essential. For anyone attempting steep and exposed routes, such as the Helvellyn edges, microspikes/crampons, and an ice axe should be carried. Goggles are also strongly recommended for navigating and route finding in challenging conditions. Temperature: plus 0.2 deg C. Maximum wind speed 28.8mph. Wind chill: minus 7.7 deg C. Average wind speed: 20.7mph

Issued at: 1641 on Sun 31 Dec 2023

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